Inventor: ABUSLEME ET AL.

Attorney Docket No.: 108910-00129

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Original) Foamable compositions mainly formed by:

- A) 50-99.9% by weight of a chlorotrifluoroethylene (CTFE) polymer containing at least 80% by moles of CTFE; and
- B) 0.1-50% by weight of a nucleating agent.

Claim 2. (Original) Foamable compositions according to claim 1 mainly formed by:

- A) 50-99.9% by weight of a chlorotrifluoroethylene (CTFE) polymer containing at least 80% by moles of CTFE; and
- B) 0.1-50% by weight of a nucleating agent, under fine powder, having average particle size lower than 50 micron, preferably lower than 20 micron and a melting temperature higher than 250 °C.
- Claim 3. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claims 1-2 claim 1, wherein the nucleating agent is selected between the tetrafluoroethylene (TFE) homopolymer or its copolymers having a second melting temperature higher than 250 °C.
- Claim 4. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claims 1-3 claim 1, wherein the nucleating agent B) is the tretrafluoroethylene homopolymer (PTFE) having a number average molecular weight lower than 1,000,000, preferably lower than 500,000.
- Claim 5. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claims 1-4 claim 1, wherein the TFE copolymers are selected from TFE copolymers with perfluoroalkylvinylethers wherein the alkyl is a $C_1 C_3$, TFE copolymers with perfluorodioxoles or TFE copolymers with hexafluoropropene (FEP), optionally containing perfluoroalkylvinylethers.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claims 1–5 claim 1, wherein the nucleating agent is used in an amount from 5 to 30% by weight, more preferably from 10 to 20%.

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Claim 7. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claims 1-6 claim 1, wherein the nucleating agent B) is the tetrafluoroethylene homopolymer (PTFE), irradiated with gamma rays or with electron beam.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claims 1-7 claim 1, wherein the polymer A) is formed by at least 90% by moles of CTFE, preferably by at least 95% by moles.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) Compositions according to claims 1-8 <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the polymer A) is a CTFE copolymer with one or more comonomers selected from:

- perfluoroalkylvinylethers, wherein the alkyl is C₁ C₃, preferably
 perfluoropropylvinylether;
- dioxoles having formula:

$$CZ = C - Y$$

$$O O O (I)$$

$$CX_1X_2$$

wherein Y is equal to OR_f wherein R_f is a perfluoroalkyl having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms, or Y = Z as defined below; preferably Y is equal to OR_f ; X_1 and X_2 , equal to or different from each other, are -F or $-CF_3$; Z is selected from $-F_1$, $-H_1$, -CI; preferably in formula (I) X_1 , X_2 and Z are -F; R_f is preferably $-CF_3$, $-C_2F_5$, or $-C_3F_7$;

acrylic monomers having general formula:

$$CH_2=CH-CO-O-R_1$$
 (II)

wherein R₁ is a hydrogenated radical from 1 to 20 C atoms, C₁-C₂₀, alkyl, linear and/or branched, or cycloalkyl radical, or R₁ is H. The radical R₁ can optionally contain: heteroatoms preferably Cl, O, N; one or more functional groups preferably selected from –OH, -COOH, epoxide, ester and ether; and double bonds;

vinylidene fluoride (VDF) and/or tetrafluoroethylene (TFE).

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Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A process to prepare molded articles and foamed coatings comprising the extrusion or thermoforming of the compositions of claims 1-9 claim 1.

Claim 11. (Original) Molded articles and foamed coating obtainable according to claim 10.

Claim 12. (Original) Articles and foamed coatings according to claim 11 having a void % higher than 10% by volume, preferably higher than 20% by volume, wherein the average cell sizes are lower than 100 micron, preferably lower than 60 micron.

Claim 13. (Original) Electric wires formed of a metal conductor and of a foamed coating according to claim 12.

4